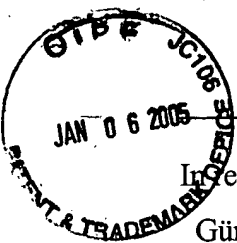


IFW

Attorney Docket # 4452-582

Patent



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of

Günther HANDKE et al.

Serial No.: 10/695,963

Filed: October 29, 2003

For: Bearing For A Piston Rod

Examiner: King, B. T.
Group Art: 3683

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 4, 2005
(Date of Deposit)

F. Brice Faller

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

F. Brice Faller
Signature

January 4, 2005
Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

SIR:

Responsive to the restriction requirement in the Office Action of December 9, 2004, applicants hereby elect the species of Figure 1 for examination, if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

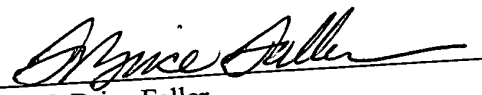
Claims 1, 2, and 4-9 read on the species of Figure 1. While some of these features covered by these claims are shown in Figures 2A and 2B, these features are not independent of Figure 1 insofar as they can be used with features shown in Figure 1.

Early action on the merits is solicited.

Appl. No. 10/695,963
Resp. to Restriction Req. dated January 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 9, 2004

If any fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application,
they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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